

REPORT FROM NASA HEADQUARTERS
to the
SOUNDING ROCKET WORKING GROUP

Mary Mellott
Program Scientist for Sounding Rocket Operations

SRWG 1/14/04

SRPO and HQ(SEC)

- May 15 Sounding Rocket Program Vision - Presentation to Fisher
- May 21 Sounding Rocket Program Vision - Presentation to Weiler
- June 6 Geospace Science MOWG
- June 26 SRWG, Goddard
The MOWG enthusiastically received the news of potential new capabilities in the sounding rocket program and strongly endorses their pursuit.
- August 11-13 Space Science Advisory Committee
Dr. Robert Pfaff, NASA/GSFC, reviewed the science results and future possibilities involving the NASA sounding rocket program. Despite the acknowledged value of the program, there are issues regarding the health and capabilities of the rocket program and the full sub-orbital program that will continue to draw the attention of SScAC.

SRPO and HQ(SEC)

October 28-29

Geospace Science MOWG

G/LCAS: PROPOSAL PRESSURE HISTORY

NRA-91 - NRA-95	30 average
NRA-96	20
NRA-97	23
NRA-98	18
NRA-99	21
ROSS-00	20
ROSS-01	16 (Peru)
ROSS-02	10
ROSS-03	6

Formation of ad hoc working group on G/LCAS program

November 4-6

Sun-Earth Connection Advisory Subcommittee

Reiteration of importance of program; discussion of budget problems

SRPO and HQ(SEC)

November Space Science Advisory Committee

Fisher report on the status of Sounding Rocket Operations

- * FY 04 Manifest is overbooked - primarily because of unanticipated costs of Kwajalein campaign. SRPO will attempt to support all requests via shared windows and filling of slots resulting from slips of manifested missions
- * Kwajalein status: 14 flights supporting 4 different experiments; SROP pursuing cost cutting concepts
- * NASA's first "Tailored" Trajectory: University of Alaska (Conde) HEX Mission
- * Rocket Motor Inventory: Insufficient in-guide budget to purchase a minimum buy of motors.
- * Overguide requests for support of HASR and other technology development
- * Overview of ongoing vehicle and technology development

Current Budget Impact/Responses

(Fisher - SScAC)

Rocket Motor Inventory

The planned rocket motor buy requires active management of cost and schedule for program; without creative responses to anticipated budget

High Altitude Sounding Rocket

Delay or eliminate HASR Effort (HASR effort can not be accomplished using the in-guide budget)

General Technology Development

Larger apertures & heavier payloads not available until mid-decade (2006)

Utilization of full capability of the High Altitude Sounding Rocket anticipated in late mid-decade (2010)